

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

The following amendments show deletions with ~~striketrough~~ and show additions by underlining.

1. Please amend the Abstract to appear as follows:

--This invention relates to formulations and methods for preserving sensitive biologicals, viruses, bacteria and eukaryotic cells by drying. More particularly, the invention relates to preservation mixtures ~~comprising~~ containing viruses or cells and protectants, including a combination of a methylated monosaccharides monosaccharide and a disaccharide, or oligosaccharide, wherein the mixtures are adapted to stabilize these samples during dehydration and subsequent storage at ambient and higher temperatures.--